



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Grand Teton National Park News Release

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Grand Teton National Park Transportation Plan Update

The first public meeting on Grand Teton National Park's Integrated Multimodal Transportation Plan/Environmental Assessment (EA) was held at the Teton County Commission Chambers in Jackson on September 19, 2001. Forty-one people attended, including eight National Park Service staff and six members of the consulting team.

The purpose for the September meeting was to publicly introduce Phase II of the Grand Teton National Park Transportation Project. The project began last year with a transportation study conducted by Charlier Associates, Inc. of Boulder, Colorado. One recommendation of the study suggested that the park develop NEPA-based plans for a variety of transportation improvements. The current project derives from this recommendation.

The Plan/EA will have a multi-modal focus, incorporating bicycle, pedestrian, transit, parking and automobile management systems. Charlier Associates, Inc. has teamed with Wenk Associates of Denver, Colorado to develop the Plan under joint administration of the National Park Service Denver Service Center and Grand Teton National Park, with input from park staff and the public. The majority of project funding comes from the Federal Lands Highway Program. Jackson Hole Pathways has also provided a significant portion of the funding.

The scope for the Plan/EA includes a total of four sets of public meetings over the course of the project. Each set of meetings will include a technical meeting followed by a public workshop. Meeting dates, times and locations will be published in the local newspapers. Advanced notifications will also be provided via email. Charlier Associates, Inc. is compiling an email list from attendees of the past public meetings. People who wish to be included on the email list should write to claudio@charlier.org.

The tentative schedule for meetings is as follows:

1. Technical Meeting #2/ Public Workshop #2 - December 18, 2001
2. Technical Meeting #3/ Public Workshop #3 - Late March 2002
3. Technical Meeting #4/ Public Workshop #4 - July 2002

The project team is currently developing travel forecasts and gathering data on transportation conditions in the park; this includes travel patterns of employees and visitors, traffic counts and site analyses of major activity areas. During October, the team will develop a comprehensive list of potential transportation improvement options using the Phase I study recommendations and public input as a base. The improvement options will be screened for "flaws" and the results will be presented to the public in December. The results of the travel forecasting and data analyses will also be presented in December.

Notes from the September public meeting are available on-line at: <http://www.charlier.org>.

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